



# HAMATEUR

# CHATTER



**The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, Inc.**

*The World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Club*



**April 1973**

**Number 34**

## SILENT KEY

CLARENCE N. CRAPO W9VD

After several years of illness, Clarence N. Crapo W9VD joined the ranks of Silent Keys on February 27th at the age of 79. He was born in Scottsville, Kentucky. Clarence first went on the air in 1911 with a spark coil and crystal detector in Brockton, Mass. using the self-assigned call "CN". He came to Milwaukee in 1919 and was a Charter Member of the Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club (the original club name) and soon became involved in the club and state ham circles, leaving behind an enviable record of activity.

Clarence was Vice-President of the club in 1919-1920 and served as President in 1920-1921 and again in 1931 and 1940. He served as Chairman at the Milwaukee Radio Executive Council in 1921 and General Chairman of the first Wisconsin ARRL Convention in 1922. In 1925 Clarence was Assistant Division manager of the Wisconsin Section of the ARRL and the same year he was awarded an honorary membership in the MRAC. In 1926 he founded the Badger ARRL News and served as SCM from 1926 to 1932. Other ARRL appointments were as City Traffic Manager and Superintendent of District #1 in Wisconsin.

Among many other distinctions, W9VD was one of the first hams in Milwaukee to send a message by voice transmission on ham radio and was an authority and experimenter of antennas. The story of Clarence is a story of ham radio in its finest traditions. This amateur radio community has lost a distinguished, long time leader.

Charles S. Polacheck ex-9DTK

## TO M.R.A.C. FROM MRS. ALICE CRAPO:

"I wish to extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to all who paid tribute in person and contributed for the lovely spray of flowers given in memory for my dear departed husband Clarence W9VD."

## M.R.A.C. DINNER--DANCE REPORT

Our club's 12th annual Dinner-Dance Party held at Moser's on Feb. 24th was again a big success with 130 in attendance. About 80 of this number were hams and their wives; the remainder, shall I say, were just a lot of darn nice people who enjoy coming to our parties year after year. It should be mentioned that quite a few people attending are on the "Honor Roll", never having missed one. Each year we usually have a few stags and---this year, for good and various reasons we had: W9GIL, W9LJU, K9JGT and our club president, W9ATK/ Bravo/ Hurrah/

Many good comments were heard during the course of the evening, such as: "Oh Boy, What food/" - - "The music is just wonderful" -- "I don't dance, but I'm sure glad we came."- and "Where the heck did you get all of those wonderful door prizes?". Well, to be sure, we did have a lot of "Goodies", about 125 in number, and some of the luckier couples went home with several gifts. While part of the proceeds are used to purchase "Goodies", a good share were outright gifts by some of the local area merchants and institutions. I'd like to give credit to the following for their help in making the affair a success: Amateur Electronic Supply, Marsh Radio Supply, Radio Parts Mart, Allied Radio Shacke, Lappin Electric Co., Hein Electric Co., St. Francis Saving & Loan, National Savings & Loan, Milw. Federal Savings & Loan and Elsie & George's WX9BAR.

I think it is also high time I officially gave thanks to my co-chairmen; namely my wife, our son and his wife, all who over the years have been a great help with the decorations, ticket sales and gathering "Goodies". In closing, let it be known the party was again a financial success, there being a small amount (\$25.00) left over for the club's piggy bank. C U in '74???????

Russ- W9RKP

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#### HAM HELPS CAPTURE PRISONERS

A wire service technician, the pilot for a radio station traffic report, two deputy-sheriffs and lots of reinforcements combined forces yesterday to keep three prisoners in custody. Two Milwaukee County sheriff's deputies were transporting three prisoners to Milwaukee from Waupun for trial when the prisoners allegedly tried an escape. Sheriff Michael Wolke says the three somehow got out of their handcuffs and chains and tried to overpower the two deputies when their car was near Menomonee Falls on U. S. 41, but Associated Press technician Jim Taylor was nearby in his car, which is equipped with a radio-telephone. He called for assistance and the W-T-M-J radio traffic report pilot pinpointed the location of the trouble for reinforcements. Both deputies were slightly injured, but the three prisoners were quickly rounded up."

The above item was recently in the papers (March 14th or 15th) and Jim Taylor K9ZYS, the technician mentioned, had this comment to make about this public service incident: "Even the Associated Press, for whom I work, got the story goofed up. I reported the incident, not on a radio-telephone, but on 2 Meters (146.67) to W9PAS. Bill notified the Washington County authorities who apparently in turn, alerted the Milwaukee County authorities."

#### WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS

A meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters was held in Neenah, Wis. on Jan. 28, 1973. Representatives from nine state groups were in attendance. By-Laws to govern the operation of the Association were adopted and the election of officers was held. Those elected: Chairman, Jim Taylor K9ZYS; Vice-Chairman, Dennis Dal Santo WA9SXN; Secretary, Jack McLeland W9ATK; and Treasurer, Don Stenz K9KSA. John LeFerber W9VAT was appointed as chairman of the frequency coordinating committee.

The Association resolved that 146.94 Mhz, 146.52 Mhz, 146.34 Mhz and 52.525 Mhz be discouraged as choices for repeater output frequencies.

Information on the Association may be obtained by contacting Jim Taylor, K9ZYS, PO

#### D X NEWS AND VIEWS

Our DX guests from New Zealand, Z12GX, Jock White and XYL, Beatie, left the States January 28th and arrived home on schedule. In a letter I received recently, Jock wishes to extend best wishes to all hams they had the pleasure of meeting while here - and he expresses their gratitude for all of the hospitalities shown them. A few excerpts from his letter are: "Russ, I hope you did not notice me drooling as we went through that store in Milwaukee.. the sight of all that Collins stuff in unopened boxes"----- "How about all those DX lies at the Milwaukee Radio Club- and all those 5-Band DXCCers" "What about the day at the Milwaukee Zoo when Beatie saw enough snakes to last a lifetime?"

They surely are a happy and friendly pair and needless to say we enjoyed their short stay here very much. We hope to be able to pay them a visit sometime in the next few years. I talk to Jock quite frequently on 14,240 kcs and the best time for a contact is around 0500Z on Saturday or Sunday. He will be glad to say "Hello" to any of the DX locals.

- - - -

It is rumored there will be another D X-pedition to Mount Athos sometime around the Easter holidays. As most of the DXers know this constitutes a new "Country" on the ARRL DXCC list and was first activated last October by some of the SV boys using the call, SYLMA. Hopefully, future operations from this spot will be better than the first one, when they were just barely heard here and unworkable due to propagation and seemingly poor equipment. C U in the pile-up/

Spratly Island was activated in February using the call 1SLA, but as far as the local Milwaukee DXers are concerned, they may as well have stayed home. Propagation surely was unkind to us here in the Mid-West and quite a few locals failed to hear them on any band and all using good antennas. One local reports having heard then and gave 'em a 5X5 report, but no QSO. I think that this operator had "Spratleyitis"... Oh well, who needs Spratley?

--- Russ... W9RKP ---  
ADDITIONAL DX NEWS  
W9JK worked SYLMA which has been declared a "country" - - - that makes 315 for Newt in Wisconsin.....

#### CONSTRUCTION

W9SQL is working on a DDDR antenna. W9ZQK and W9TQ, with W9CTI assisting, removed a tri-bander and 45' tower for WA9KRF.

## SUNSHINE

W9AEV has been reported in and out of the hospital.

## QCWA WISCONSIN CHAPTER

The next event for the Wisconsin chapter will be the Spring Dinner-Meeting.

The Date:--- May 19, 1973

The Place--- Black Steer, Milwaukee  
Highway 100 & Greenfield Ave.

The Time-- 11:30 Happy Hour with sit-down dinner at 1:00 P.M.

The cost:-- \$3.50 - pay at dinner

RESERVATIONS: W9ESJ by net, phone or mail.  
1314 S. 21st St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53204  
A special tour for the XYLs is planned. 50-year certificates will be awarded to W9BAS, W9COG, W9EVL, W9LJU and W9JM at the meeting. Those going to the Dayton Hamvention will get theirs from QCWA President Barry Goldwater! Check in the QCWA net Sundays 9:00 AM-3985.

## ON THE AIR ACTIVITY

Suggested procedure for EMERGENCY on two meters: If no reply, state your emergency at least twice with complete details. There are persons monitoring most frequencies and some can't transmit, but will relay on landline.

2 Meter AM ain't dead yet! 2-Meter AMNET is on 145.30 every Monday Night at 7:30. Net Controller is WB9GIE. Also Southern Wisconsin Net (AM) is on 145.35 daily at 0230 GMT.

MAN 6 at 6 has 57 stations on its list! WB9FZU reports that plans are being made to handle traffic as soon as liason with WBSN is worked out. Marsh also reports that a VHF club is in the process of forming with its first meeting on April 1st.

Ozaukee Club repeater is operational on 37/97 with a few bugs yet to iron out. 2250 tone access is used to avoid unnecessary QRM. It is reported that the 65' pole is mighty high when you're on the top!

WA9JLU is mobile on .67 with 50 watts?

WB9IJC worked WB8NWX aeronautical/mobile on 6 meters as he flew from Milwaukee over to Michigan and was QSO 'til he landed.

WA9FBO has graduated from MSOE and reports very good RTTY activity in Manitowoc-Calumet area on 146.70. Also active on RTTY are WB9DQD, W9YCY, WA9WWO, WB9BDZ, WB9ESM, WB9FYK and WA9FBO.

W9MFG announces plans to have a Novice-Traffic Net on 3725 Khz starting April 1st at 1200 GMT (6:00 AM). This net will meet daily and primarily is intended as a training net and should be interesting to Novices...

Explorer Post 373 activities are reported by WB9AJP. Jeff is a pre-med student at UWM and will get active again as a mobile. The Post will be active again on FD.

## AREC AND EMERGENCY

The March meeting of the AREC had as the guest speaker Ray Waldman, Meteorologist-In-Charge of the National Weather Service in Milwaukee. He gave a very interesting talk on current weather trends and potential flood conditions this Spring. Many hams around the state will be providing flood levels and severe weather reports to the Milwaukee Weather Office. Mr. Waldman said that it has been proven weather spotter reports have cut down on the loss of both life and property. He said that there are not enough spotters in the northern part of the state.

Plans are progressing on the improvement of the Red Cross station W9IJT. A low-band Gonset linear is being readied for operation. A 4-bay "Sherm-Special" is being built by Sherm and Bill W9PAS and will soon replace the old antenna. Also, a Ringo and an 80D is being planned to be put on the WB9ADX repeater system. The additional gear should attract more operators and it should be stressed that ops for W9IJT are not only for Net Controllers of the MondayNets.... See WA9POV or WA9KRF and volunteer for operating duties and further fun...

The major activities ahead are the 4th of July Parade and Circus Train and also the Summerfest. The Summerfest activity will not only be as communication aides but a chance to have a Ham display booth. Volunteer operators will be provided passes, as well as meals and parking on the grounds... This will be an excellent opportunity to be of public service. It appears that the Air Show will not be held this year.

Attend the monthly meeting (1st Tuesday at the Red Cross Building at 8:00 P.M.) and/or check into the AREC Net on Mondays at 9:00 P.M.

## CHATTER

Inadvertently, Walter Laing, ex-W9KVX, was excluded from the Life Member list. He received this honor at the O. T.'s night.

WA9JOV and XYL Kathleen made a second try at vacationing down South. This time they flew. The first time Ray unfortunately suffered a heart attack and returned home for a second go.

"Hats Off" to Mrs. Harry Schraith. She not only tolerates and encourages WN9ISM, but also allows Jim's friend WN9IWI to have a ham station in his room, too/

The youngest ham in W9BTQ's class, Bruce Brundage, got his General and is now WB9KFE- Congrats!

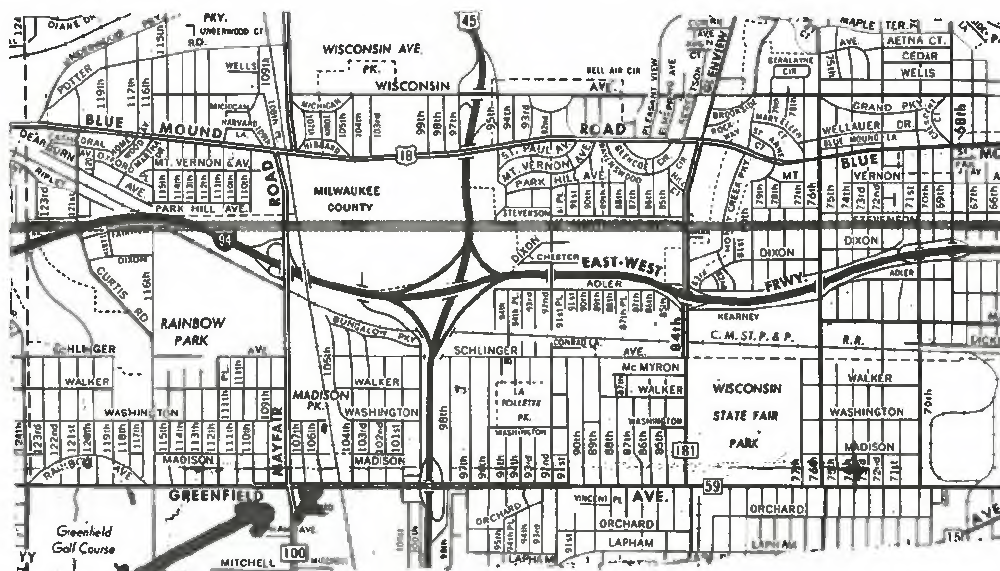
CQ3TUE's March meeting was well attended: 45 were present. Remember the next on on the 3rd Tues. (Apr. 17) at Svedenhouse.



THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEUR'S CLUB WILL BE HELD AT THE M.S.O.E., 1020 NORTH BROAD WAY, ROOM 5B, APRIL 12, 1973 AT 7:30 P.M. --- AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION! -- AREC MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, AT THE RED CROSS BLDG. 26th & WISC.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO NON-MEMBERS: THIS ISSUE WILL BE THE LAST ONE TO BE SENT FREE TO THE LIST BELOW. BECAUSE OF INCREASED COSTS, THE BOARD HAS INSTRUCTED THE EDITOR TO REMOVE THEM FROM THE MAILING LIST. THOSE DESIRING TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE HAMATEUR CHATTER MAY DO SO BY MAKING A DONATION TO THE CLUB. (IF YOU HAVE MADE SUCH A DONATION, PLEASE EXCUSE THE ERROR, AND NOTIFY THE EDITOR.

W9IAT, K9OSK, WA9UQN, WA9IMR, WN9EVT, W9DYG, WA9RDH, W9EGQ, K9ZMQ, K9LJH, K9ETX, WA9OIF, K9PSU, WA9MNX, W9TWA, K9UKH, K9IAC, WA9YAN, K9SEB, W9TPO, K9JYX, W9IVI, WA9TON, WA9TMK, K9ZMG, W9GSV, K9GNJ, W9KOD, WA9OLG, W9NOC, K9WIG, WB9LOB, W7HFR, K9AVP, WA9RMA, W9MQD, K9WTF, K9GCZ, K9QIL, W9VZR, W9HIF, WA9OQZ, WA9WYJ, K9HAM, W9WYF, K9CJP, K9TWE, WA9HTX, WB9EQA, WA9IVJ, WA9ATL, WN9NOA, WA9SGB, WA9AOL, K9QES, WA9MRG, WB9AUE, WA9VET, WN9UNM, K9WVS, WA9PPK, WA9ULK, WA9MCF, WA9GAK, W9ANB, WA9SCI, W9WUQ, W9DZZ, WA9OKB, K9ELH, WA9HOI, K9JGT, K9ZPP, WN9NCO, W9KGH, W9VLL, W9ZAF, WA9CLE.



QCWA SPRING DINNER-MEETING AT BLACK STEER  
10725 W. GREENFIELD (CORNER HWY 100)

#### HAMATEUR CHATTER

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